

Justice of the Peace Court

In FY 2002, several initiatives underscore the Justice of the Peace Court's efforts to provide better services and to expedite case dispositions, including:

Pilot Project Providing Legal Representation at Court 20:

A highlight of FY 2002 was the initiation of the federally-funded pilot project to provide attorney general and public defender representation at J.P. Court 20 in Wilmington. Through this project, the Attorney General, Public Defender and the Court work collaboratively at Court 20 to resolve cases at the earliest possible opportunity. The grant provides two deputies attorney general, two public defenders, and support personnel, to provide representation at pre-trial proceedings and trials at Court 20, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Benefits brought by the project to the victims and defendants include early resolution of cases (often at the initial court appearance), early access to victim's services, and access to legal services for both victims and defendants at Court 20. Preliminary statistics indicate that the project has reduced the transfer rate (the percentage of cases which could be heard in the Justice of the Peace Court but which are transferred to the Court of Common Pleas by the defendant) from 46% before the project went into effect to 25% (including cases pending at Court 20). These promising initial results should help reduce backlogs at the Court of Common Pleas, pre-trial detention and the number of capiases issued for defendants failing to appear for trial at a later date.



Chief Magistrate Patricia Walther Griffin

Truancy Court: The Justice of the Peace Court's statewide Truancy Court has developed into a multi-faceted program involving an extensive network of social service and treatment agencies that provide assistance to families with truancy problems. Performance indicators for the Truancy Court in 2001-2002 show promising results:

- 56% of the cases closed in 2001-2002 achieved full compliance with the Truancy Court (returned to school regularly), representing a significant improvement from the previous school year's compliance rate of 44%.
- Preliminary statistics also demonstrate the need to target younger truants to enhance success – the compliance rate is close to 100% when the truant student is less than 11 years old.
- The earlier the intervention, the better the outcome: truant students who achieved full compliance averaged 23 days of unexcused absences at the time of filing, while non-compliant truants averaged a substantially higher number of days (34) for the same period.
- 95% of the truant students who achieved full compliance with Truancy Court in 2001-2002 completed the school year.

Justice of the Peace Court

FY 2002 was the first year of a highly successful federally-funded joint program with the Truancy Court and the Boys and Girls Club in Kent County intended to encourage the difficult-to-motivate teenage truants to return to school. The program includes a morning attendance program, after-school work readiness and life skills program, and paid part-time employment for teenage truants. It was recognized as the 2002 Program of the Year by the Kent County Interagency Council for its outstanding results.

Statewide Videophone Court: A statewide Justice of the Peace Videophone Court was established at J.P. Court No.2 in Rehoboth on January 2, 2002. Conducting proceedings by videophone enables court users, such as the police, to obtain warrants and have arraignments conducted, without them or the defendants physically appearing in court, thereby saving time. The new Videophone Court has provided substantial benefits to the criminal justice community because it efficiently manages and distributes the J.P. Court's statewide videophone workload during its hours of operation, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until midnight. In a recent survey of police officers using the new Videophone Court, 94% of those responding said that the amount of time they spent on videophone proceedings has been reduced by the Videophone Court and 86% of respondents indicated that they were very pleased with the service they received. Survey responses included comments such as "[I was] surprised how fast the process [with Videophone Court] took" and "The Statewide Videophone Court

keeps officers available and on patrol like we are supposed to be." The benefits of the new court were also highlighted in a study by the Criminal Justice Council, which indicated that the Videophone Court would enable the police to save over \$600,000 per year in personnel costs. The Statewide Videophone Court initiative exemplifies the Justice of the Peace Court's efforts to redistribute existing resources to enhance the speed and efficiency of the services it provides to its videophone customers.

Employee Recognition: In FY 2002, the Justice of the Peace Court COTS team, including Larry Sipple (Management Analyst III), Lyn Arnold (Management Analyst II), Charlotte Walsh (Judicial Case Processor Supervisor), Debbie Cahall (Judicial Operations Manager), Debbie Long (Judicial Operations Manager), Sheila Taylor (Judicial Case Processor Supervisor), and Vanessa Marlowe (Judicial Case Processor Supervisor), were recognized as the Justice of the Peace Court Employees of the Year for 2001 for their outstanding work related to the Judiciary's COTS initiative to select and acquire a new case management system for all of the courts. We are also proud of Judge Rosalind Toulson, who received the 2002 Chief Justice's Award for Outstanding Judicial Service in the Justice of the Peace Court for her tireless efforts and leadership with regard to the Truancy Court in New Castle County and her exceptional skills, including her treatment of every litigant, witness and colleague with dignity, respect and understanding.

Justice of the Peace Court



Justice of the Peace Court, New Castle County

Front Row (sitting from left to right)

Judge Vernon Taylor, Judge Roger Barton, Judge Marie Page, Deputy Chief Magistrate Bonita Lee, Judge Deborah McNesby, Judge Cheryl Stallman, Judge James Tull

Back Row (standing from left to right)

Judge Sidney Clark, Judge Sean McCormick, Judge Rosalind Toulson, Judge Wayne Hanby, Judge Marilyn Letts, Judge Thomas Cole, Judge Katharine Ross, Judge David Skelley, Judge Nancy Roberts, Judge Paul Smith, Judge Kathleen Lucas, Judge Thomas Brown, Judge Stanley Petraschuk, Judge Laurence Fitchett, Jr.

Not Pictured

Judge Robert Armstrong, Judge Linda Gray, Judge Thomas Kenney, Judge Roberto Lopez, Judge William Moser, Judge Rosalie Rutkowski, Judge Terry Smith

Justice of the Peace Court

Justice of the Peace Court, Kent County



Front Row (sitting left to right)
Judge Pamela Darling, Judge Margaret Barrett, Judge Debora Foor

Back Row (standing left to right)
Judge Fred Lord, Deputy Chief Magistrate Charles Stump, Judge Harvey Leighty, Judge James Murray, Judge Robert Wall

Not Pictured
Judge Ernst Arndt, Judge Frederick Dewey, Jr., Judge Ellis Parrott, Judge Agnes Pennella

Justice of the Peace Court, Sussex County

Front Row (sitting left to right)
Judge John McKenzie, Judge Margaret Barrett, Deputy Chief Magistrate Sheila Blakely, Judge Edward Davis, Judge Jana Mollohan, Judge Jeni Coffelt, Judge John Hudson

Back Row (standing left to right)
Judge William Patrick Wood, Judge William Hopkins, Jr., Judge William Brittingham, Judge Herman Hagan, Judge John Martin, Judge Richard Comly, Judge Walter Godwin, Judge William Boddy, III

Not Pictured
Judge Joseph Melson, Jr., Judge Howard (William) Mulvaney, III, Judge John O'Bier, Judge Marceale Ruffin



Justice of the Peace Court

Legal Authorization

The Justice of the Peace Court is authorized by the Constitution of Delaware, Article IV, Section 1.

Court History

As early as the 1600s, justices of the peace were commissioned to handle minor civil and criminal cases. Along with a host of other duties, the administering of local government in the 17th and 18th Centuries on behalf of the English Crown was a primary duty of the justices of the peace. With the adoption of the State Constitution of 1792, the justices of the peace were stripped of their general administrative duties leaving them with minor civil and criminal jurisdiction. During the period 1792 through 1964, the justices of the peace were compensated entirely by the costs and fees accessed and collected for the performance of their legal duties.

Legal Jurisdiction

The Justice of the Peace Court has jurisdiction over civil cases in which the amount in controversy is not greater than \$15,000. This increased from \$5,000 in January 1995. Justice of the Peace Court is authorized to hear certain misdemeanors and most motor vehicle cases (excluding felonies) and may act as committing magistrates for all crimes. Appeals may be taken to the Court of Common Pleas effective January 1995. In the past, these appeals were taken to the Superior Court. The subject matter jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace Courts is shared with the Court of Common Pleas, except for summary possession actions.

The Court's jurisdiction was increased on May 1, 1998, to include filings in the city of Wilmington as a result of the Municipal Court merger.

Geographic Organization

The jurisdiction of the Court is statewide and sessions are held throughout the State. Of the 19 courts currently operating, eight are in New Castle County, four are in Kent County and seven are in Sussex County. The Voluntary Assessment Center, which handles mail-in fines, is located in Dover.

Justice of the Peace

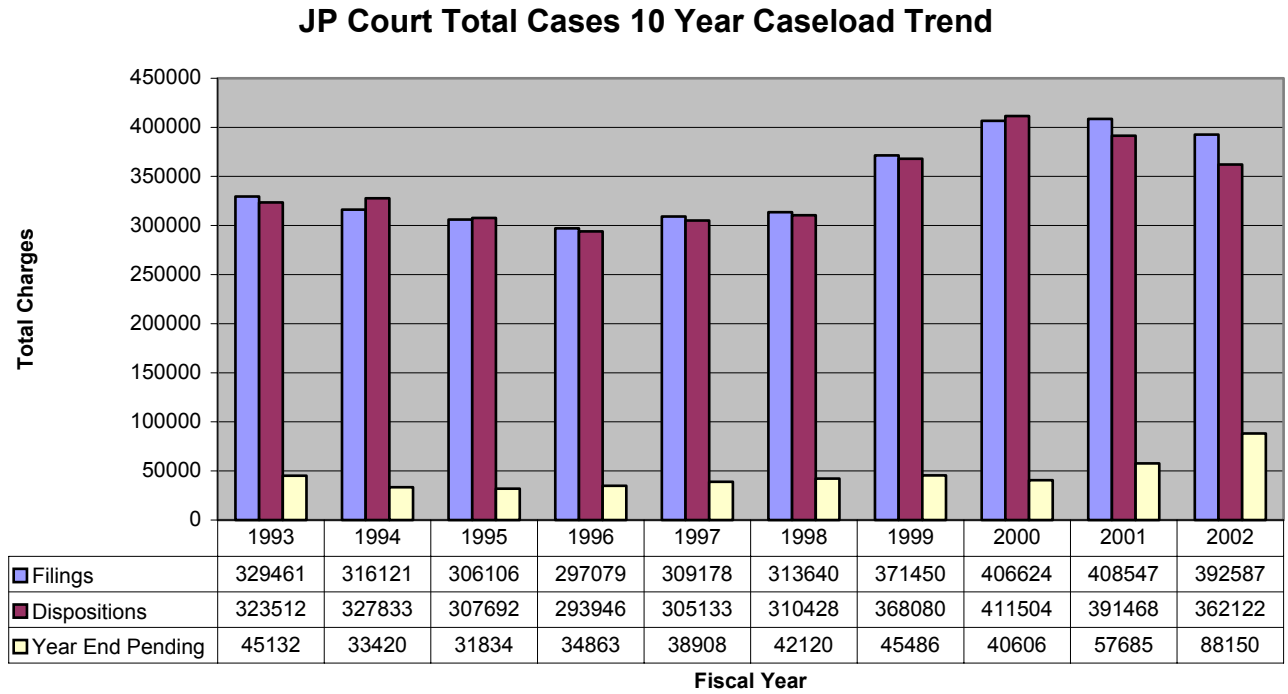
The Delaware Code authorizes a maximum of 58 justices of the peace. The maximum number of justices of the peace permitted in each county is 29 in New Castle County, 12 in Kent County and 17 in Sussex County. All justices of the peace are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for terms of four years. A justice of the peace must be at least 21 years of age and a resident of the state of Delaware and the county in which the justice of the peace serves. In addition to the 58 justices of the peace, the Governor nominates a chief magistrate, subject to Senate confirmation.

Support Personnel

An administrator, two operations managers, an administrative officer, and a fiscal administrative officer help the chief magistrate direct the Justice of the Peace Court on a daily basis. The State provides clerks of the court, constables, and other personnel for the Court.

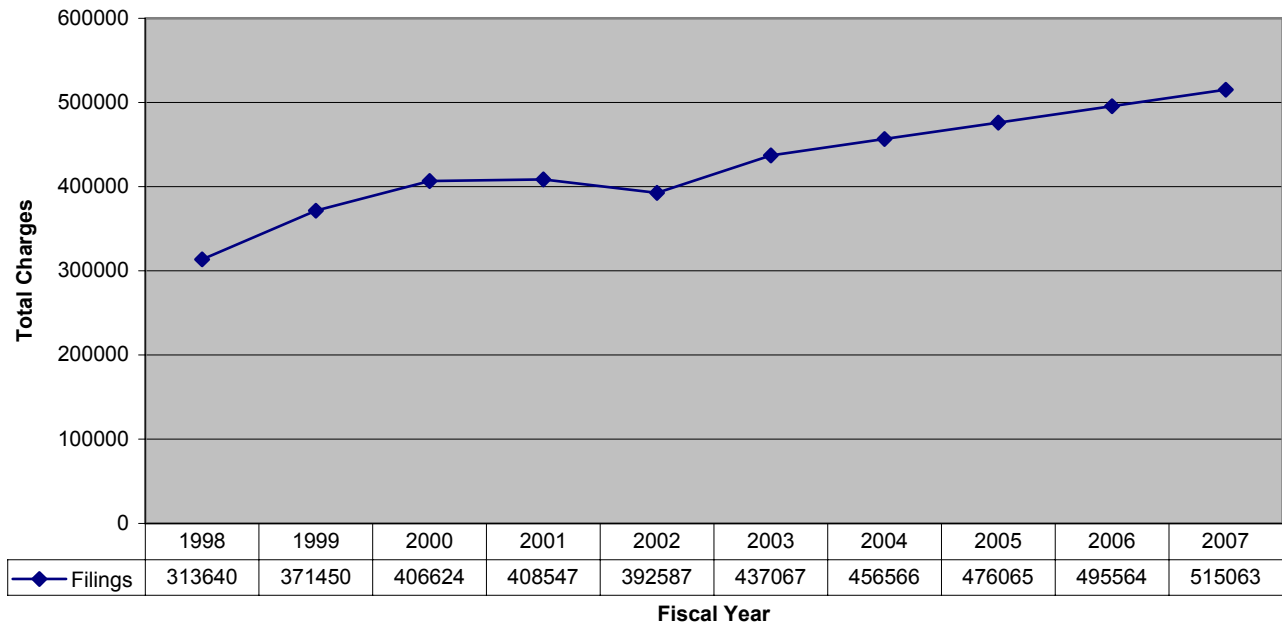
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT							
Caseload Summary Fiscal Year 2002 - Total Cases (defendants)							
	Pending 6/30/2001	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/2002	Change In Pending		% Change In Pending
Criminal	28,886	229,817	213,754	44,949	+16,063		+55.6%
Civil	10,260	28,910	29,637	9,533	- 727		- 7.1%
Total	39,146	258,727	243,391	54,482	+15,336		+39.2%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Total Cases Filings (defendants)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
Criminal	247,368		229,817		-17,551		-7.1%
Civil	27,874		28,910		+ 1,036		+3.7%
Total	275,242		258,727		-16,515		-6.0%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Total Cases Dispositions (defendants)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
Criminal	238,752		213,754		-24,998		-10.5%
Civil	23,527		29,637		+ 6,110		+26.0%
Total	262,279		243,391		-18,888		- 7.2%
Caseload Summary Fiscal Year 2002-Total Cases (charges)							
	Pending 6/30/2001	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/2002	Change In Pending		% Change In Pending
Criminal	47,425	363,677	332,485	78,617	+31,192		+65.8%
Civil	10,260	28,910	29,637	9,533	- 727		- 7.1%
Total	57,685	392,587	362,122	88,150	+30,465		+52.8%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Total Cases Filed (charges)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
Criminal	380,673		363,677		-16,996		-4.5%
Civil	27,874		28,910		1,036		+3.7%
Total	408,547		392,587		-15,960		-3.9%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Total Cases Disposed (charges)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
Criminal	367,941		332,485		-35,456		- 9.6%
Civil	23,527		29,637		+ 6,110		+26.0%
Total	391,468		362,122		-29,346		- 7.5%

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

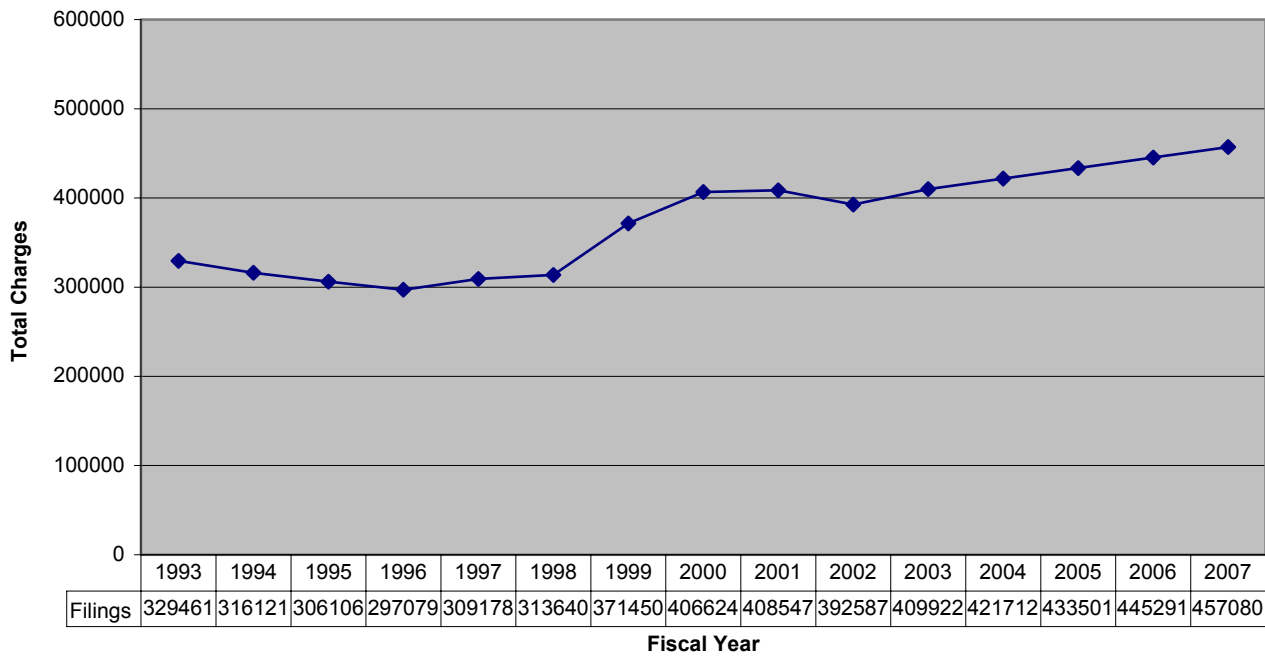


Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

JP Court 5 Year Projected Total Filings With 5 Year Base



JP Court 5 Year Projected Filings Total Cases Using 10 Year Base



Trend lines computed by regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT						
Caseload Summary Fiscal Year 2002 - Criminal and Traffic Cases (defendants)						
	Pending 6/30/2001	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/2002	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle County						
Court 9	755	1,426	1,574	607	- 148	- 19.6%
Court 10	977	9,832	8,492	2,317	+ 1,340	+137.2%
Court 11	4,881	18,031	17,458	5,454	+ 573	+ 11.7%
Court 15	2,989	6,532	6,912	2,609	- 380	- 12.7%
Court 18	78	2,819	2,738	159	+ 81	+103.8%
Court 20	2,021	18,972	17,713	3,280	+ 1,259	+ 62.3%
Kent County						
Court 6	1,618	2,953	3,528	1,043	- 575	- 35.5%
Court 7	2,688	17,558	16,961	3,285	+ 597	+ 22.2%
Court 8	93	1,718	1,573	238	+ 145	+155.9%
Sussex County						
Court 1	375	2,526	2,330	571	+ 196	+ 52.3%
Court 2	467	6,250	5,686	1,031	+ 564	+120.8%
Court 3	740	10,092	8,955	1,877	+ 1,137	+153.6%
Court 4	652	6,903	6,195	1,360	+ 708	+108.6%
Court 5	311	2,141	2,022	430	+ 119	+ 38.3%
Court 14	147	1,633	1,456	324	+ 177	+120.4%
State without VAC	18,792	109,386	103,593	24,585	+ 5,793	+ 30.8%
VAC	10,094	120,431	110,161	20,364	+10,270	+101.7%
State with VAC	28,886	229,817	213,754	44,949	+16,063	+ 55.6%

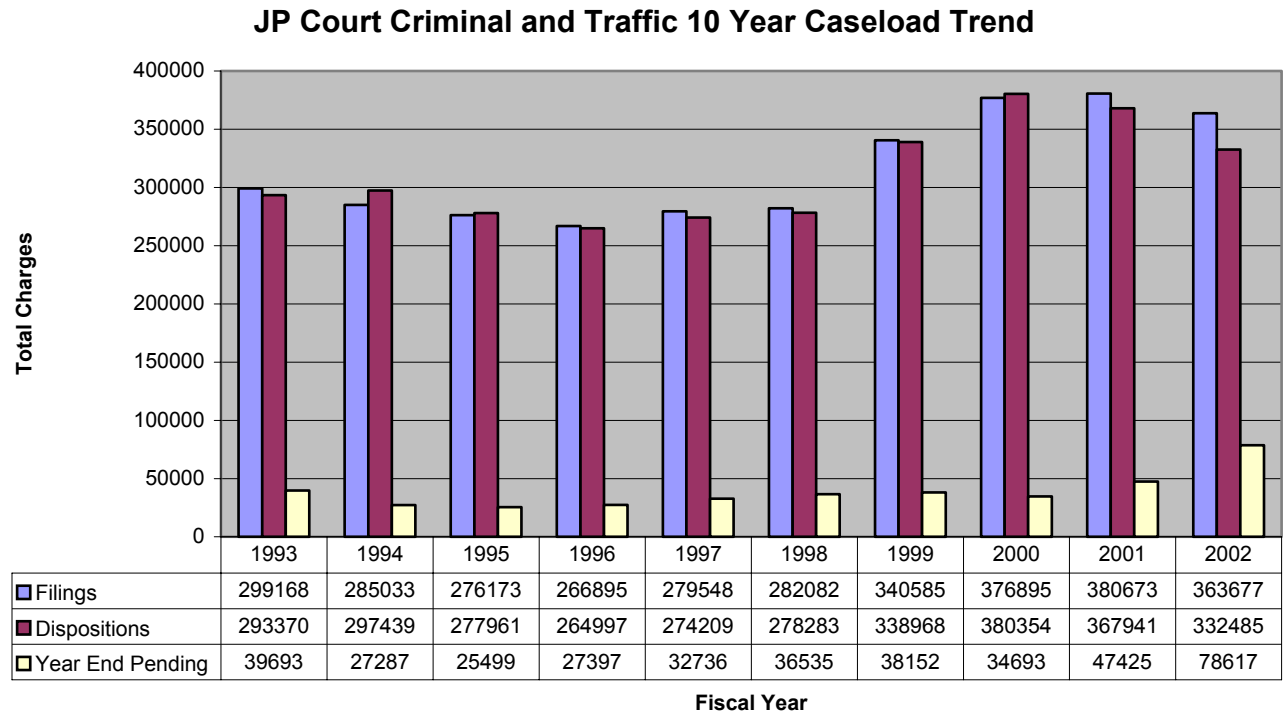
VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT						
Caseload Summary Fiscal Year 2002 - Criminal and Traffic Cases (charges)						
	Pending 6/30/2001	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/2002	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle County						
Court 9	2,066	3,132	3,771	1,427	- 639	- 30.9%
Court 10	2,468	17,926	15,853	4,541	+ 2,073	+ 84.0%
Court 11	8,500	37,767	33,671	12,596	+ 4,096	+ 48.2%
Court 15	4,099	13,573	12,485	5,187	+ 1,088	+ 26.5%
Court 18	218	4,534	4,510	242	+ 24	+ 11.0%
Court 20	4,209	41,227	39,686	5,750	+ 1,541	+ 36.6%
Kent County						
Court 6	1,886	4,995	5,003	1,878	- 8	- 0.4%
Court 7	3,821	36,644	34,251	6,214	+ 2,393	+ 62.6%
Court 8	240	3,293	3,122	411	+ 171	+ 71.3%
Sussex County						
Court 1	711	4,811	4,463	1,059	+ 348	+ 48.9%
Court 2	469	18,943	17,603	1,809	+ 1,340	+285.7%
Court 3	2,871	29,790	28,356	4,305	+ 1,434	+ 49.9%
Court 4	1,562	13,893	12,795	2,660	+ 1,098	+ 70.3%
Court 5	511	4,270	3,953	828	+ 317	+ 62.0%
Court 14	264	4,297	3,770	791	+ 527	-----
State without VAC	33,895	239,095	223,292	49,698	+15,803	+ 46.6%
VAC	13,530	124,582	109,193	28,919	+15,389	+113.7%
State with VAC	47,425	363,677	332,485	78,617	+31,192	+ 65.8%

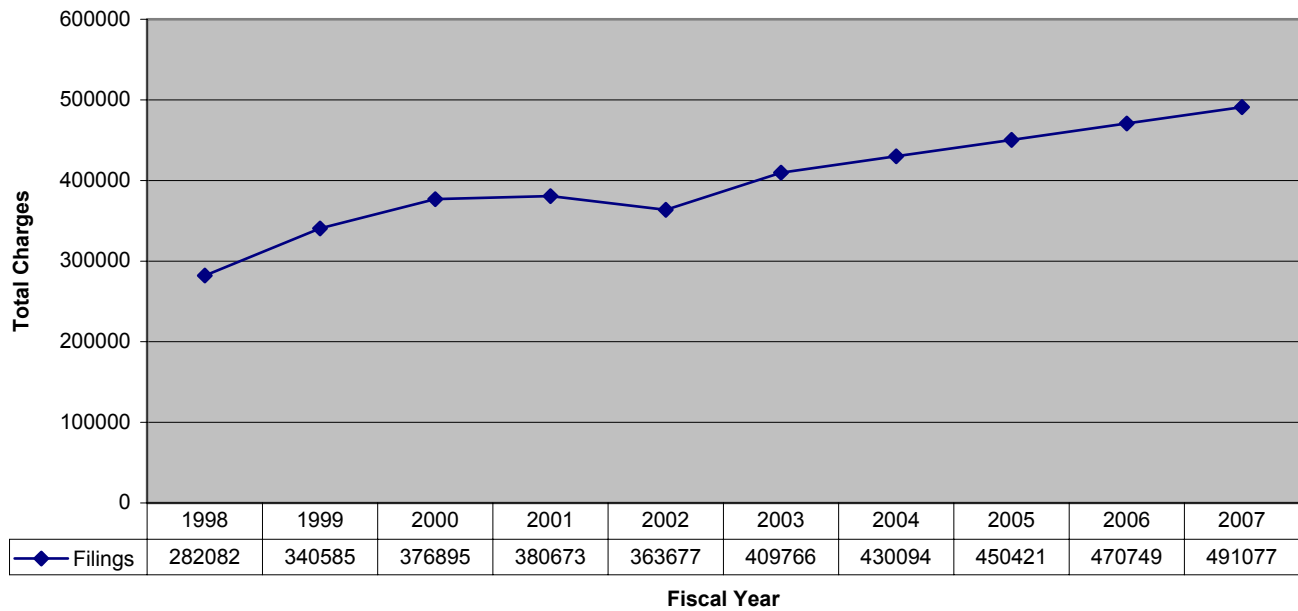
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Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

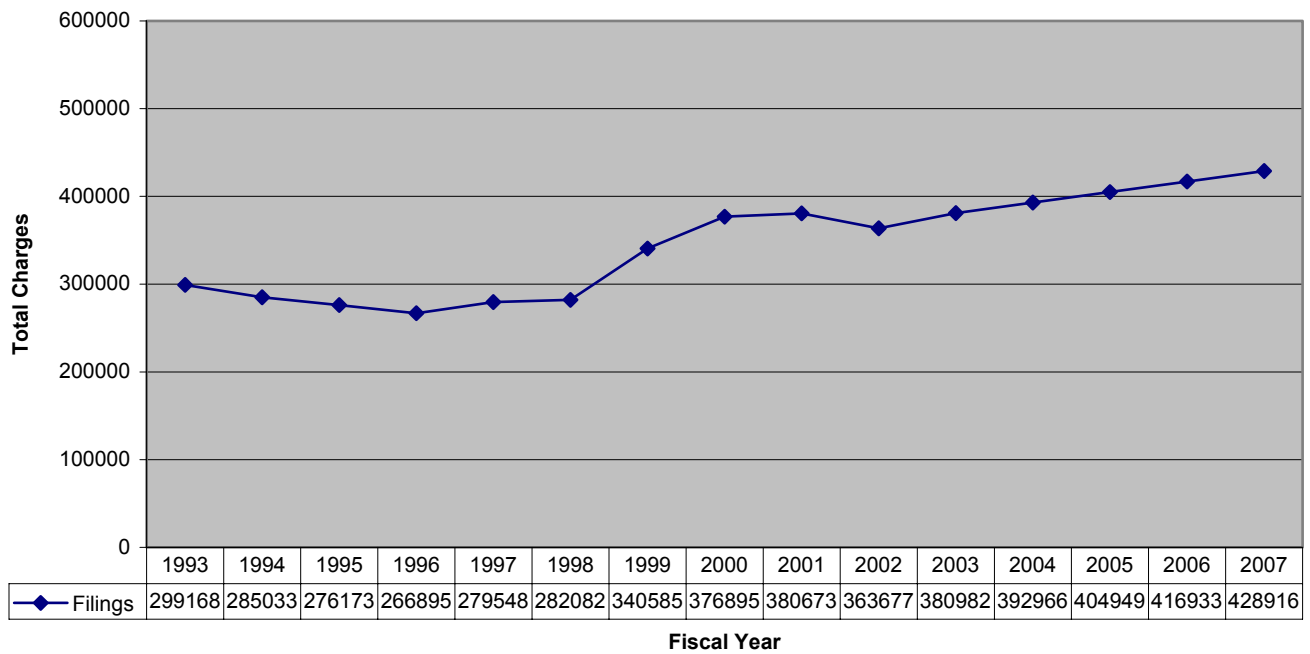


Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

JP Court 5 Year Proections Criminal and Traffic Filings Using 5 Year Base



JP Court 5 Year Projected Filings Criminal and Traffic Cases Using 10 Year Base



Trend lines computed by regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT								
Caseload Summary Fiscal Year 2002 - Capiases Handled*								
	Superior Court		Family Court		Court of Common Pleas		Total	
New Castle County								
Court 9	20	27.8%	7	9.7%	45	62.5%	72	100.0%
Court 10	84	16.4%	61	11.9%	366	71.6%	511	100.0%
Court 11	416	14.2%	442	15.0%	2,079	70.8%	2,937	100.0%
Court 15	26	12.0%	31	14.3%	160	73.7%	217	100.0%
Court 18	0	----	0	----	0	----	0	----
Court 20	917	20.6%	714	16.1%	2,811	63.3%	4,442	100.0%
Kent County								
Court 6	8	15.4%	5	9.6%	39	75.0%	52	100.0%
Court 7	491	17.2%	438	15.4%	1,920	67.4%	2,849	100.0%
Court 8	5	21.7%	3	13.0%	15	65.2%	23	100.0%
Sussex County								
Court 1	1	9.1%	0	0.0%	10	90.9%	11	100.0%
Court 2	238	20.3%	160	13.6%	777	66.1%	1,175	100.0%
Court 3	422	15.8%	410	15.3%	1,841	68.9%	2,673	100.0%
Court 4	84	14.5%	95	16.4%	399	69.0%	578	100.0%
Court 5	14	26.9%	2	3.8%	36	69.2%	52	100.0%
Court 14	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2	100.0%
Total	2,726	17.5%	2,369	15.2%	10,499	67.3%	15,594	100.0%

*Capiases issued by other courts which are processed by a Justice of the Peace Court.

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT										
Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2002 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (defendants)										
	Title 7 - Fish/Game		Title 11 - Criminal		Title 21 - Traffic		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County										
Court 9	168	11.8%	169	11.9%	964	67.6%	125	8.8%	1,426	100.0%
Court 10	126	1.3%	2,671	27.2%	6,213	63.2%	822	8.4%	9,832	100.0%
Court 11	436	2.4%	5,809	32.2%	10,461	58.0%	1,325	7.3%	18,031	100.0%
Court 15	46	0.7%	568	8.7%	5,088	77.9%	830	12.7%	6,532	100.0%
Court 18	2	0.1%	2,409	85.5%	232	8.2%	176	6.2%	2,819	100.0%
Court 20	43	0.2%	6,828	36.0%	8,720	46.0%	3,381	17.8%	18,972	100.0%
Kent County										
Court 6	49	1.7%	282	9.5%	2,529	85.6%	93	3.1%	2,953	100.0%
Court 7	385	2.2%	5,595	31.9%	10,314	58.7%	1,264	7.2%	17,558	100.0%
Court 8	6	0.3%	221	12.9%	1,424	82.9%	67	3.9%	1,718	100.0%
Sussex County										
Court 1	270	10.7%	86	3.4%	1,939	76.8%	231	9.1%	2,526	100.0%
Court 2	394	6.3%	3,651	58.4%	1,867	29.9%	338	5.4%	6,250	100.0%
Court 3	158	1.6%	3,773	37.4%	5,182	51.3%	979	9.7%	10,092	100.0%
Court 4	60	0.9%	1,082	15.7%	5,566	80.6%	195	2.8%	6,903	100.0%
Court 5	16	0.7%	344	16.1%	1,675	78.2%	106	5.0%	2,141	100.0%
Court 14	1	0.1%	32	2.0%	1,449	88.7%	151	9.2%	1,633	100.0%
State without VAC	2,160	2.0%	33,520	30.6%	63,623	58.2%	10,083	9.2%	109,386	100.0%
VAC	227	0.2%	0	0.0%	120,198	99.8%	6	0.0%	120,431	100.0%
State with VAC	2,387	1.0%	33,520	14.6%	183,821	80.0%	10,089	4.4%	229,817	100.0%
Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2002 - Criminal and Traffic Dispositions (defendants)										
	Title 7 - Fish/Game		Title 11 - Criminal		Title 21 - Traffic		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County										
Court 9	219	13.9%	163	10.4%	1,038	65.9%	154	9.8%	1,574	100.0%
Court 10	174	2.0%	2,066	24.3%	5,270	62.1%	982	11.6%	8,492	100.0%
Court 11	409	2.3%	5,725	32.8%	10,073	57.7%	1,251	7.2%	17,458	100.0%
Court 15	58	0.8%	575	8.3%	5,404	78.2%	875	12.7%	6,912	100.0%
Court 18	2	0.1%	2,366	86.4%	201	7.3%	169	6.2%	2,738	100.0%
Court 20	58	0.3%	6,407	36.2%	7,925	44.7%	3,323	18.8%	17,713	100.0%
Kent County										
Court 6	37	1.0%	437	12.4%	2,940	83.3%	114	3.2%	3,528	100.0%
Court 7	331	2.0%	5,359	31.6%	9,893	58.3%	1,378	8.1%	16,961	100.0%
Court 8	7	0.4%	197	12.5%	1,301	82.7%	68	4.3%	1,573	100.0%
Sussex County										
Court 1	244	10.5%	97	4.2%	1,794	77.0%	195	8.4%	2,330	100.0%
Court 2	375	6.6%	3,199	56.3%	1,787	31.4%	325	5.7%	5,686	100.0%
Court 3	206	2.3%	3,403	38.0%	4,529	50.6%	817	9.1%	8,955	100.0%
Court 4	57	0.9%	941	15.2%	5,007	80.8%	190	3.1%	6,195	100.0%
Court 5	19	0.9%	305	15.1%	1,599	79.1%	99	4.9%	2,022	100.0%
Court 14	1	0.1%	27	1.9%	1,340	92.0%	88	6.0%	1,456	100.0%
State without VAC	2,197	2.1%	31,267	30.2%	60,101	58.0%	10,028	9.7%	103,593	100.0%
VAC	184	0.2%	0	0.0%	109,972	99.8%	5	0.0%	110,161	100.0%
State with VAC	2,381	1.1%	31,267	14.6%	170,073	79.6%	10,033	4.7%	213,754	100.0%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT										
Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2002 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (charges)										
	Title 7 - Fish/Game		Title 11 - Criminal		Title 21 - Traffic		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County										
Court 9	251	8.0%	312	10.0%	2,332	74.5%	237	7.6%	3,132	100.0%
Court 10	261	1.5%	3,951	22.0%	12,452	69.5%	1,262	7.0%	17,926	100.0%
Court 11	714	1.9%	12,350	32.7%	21,741	57.6%	2,962	7.8%	37,767	100.0%
Court 15	127	0.9%	904	6.7%	11,513	84.8%	1,029	7.6%	13,573	100.0%
Court 18	2	0.0%	3,743	82.6%	465	10.3%	324	7.1%	4,534	100.0%
Court 20	70	0.2%	13,454	32.6%	20,057	48.7%	7,646	18.5%	41,227	100.0%
Kent County										
Court 6	57	1.1%	777	15.6%	3,991	79.9%	170	3.4%	4,995	100.0%
Court 7	658	1.8%	11,393	31.1%	21,287	58.1%	3,306	9.0%	36,644	100.0%
Court 8	2	0.1%	409	12.4%	2,780	84.4%	102	3.1%	3,293	100.0%
Sussex County										
Court 1	562	11.7%	152	3.2%	3,832	79.7%	265	5.5%	4,811	100.0%
Court 2	509	2.7%	9,607	50.7%	7,627	40.3%	1,200	6.3%	18,943	100.0%
Court 3	486	1.6%	11,365	38.2%	14,731	49.4%	3,208	10.8%	29,790	100.0%
Court 4	113	0.8%	2,207	15.9%	11,151	80.3%	422	3.0%	13,893	100.0%
Court 5	19	0.4%	674	15.8%	3,355	78.6%	222	5.2%	4,270	100.0%
Court 14	17	0.4%	78	1.8%	4,066	94.6%	136	3.2%	4,297	100.0%
State without VAC	3,848	1.6%	71,376	29.9%	141,380	59.1%	22,491	9.4%	239,095	100.0%
VAC	246	0.2%	0	0.0%	124,326	99.8%	10	0.0%	124,582	100.0%
State with VAC	4,094	1.1%	71,376	19.6%	265,706	73.1%	22,501	6.2%	363,677	100.0%
Caseload Breakdowns Fiscal Year 2002 - Criminal and Traffic Dispositions (charges)										
	Title 7 - Fish/Game		Title 11 - Criminal		Title 21 - Traffic		Miscellaneous		Total	
New Castle County										
Court 9	260	6.9%	289	7.7%	2,977	78.9%	245	6.5%	3,771	100.0%
Court 10	225	1.4%	3,551	22.4%	11,041	69.6%	1,036	6.5%	15,853	100.0%
Court 11	622	1.8%	10,494	31.2%	20,017	59.4%	2,538	7.5%	33,671	100.0%
Court 15	99	0.8%	863	6.9%	10,544	84.5%	979	7.8%	12,485	100.0%
Court 18	2	0.0%	3,783	83.9%	450	10.0%	275	6.1%	4,510	100.0%
Court 20	77	0.2%	12,977	32.7%	19,291	48.6%	7,341	18.5%	39,686	100.0%
Kent County										
Court 6	50	1.0%	827	16.5%	3,958	79.1%	168	3.4%	5,003	100.0%
Court 7	731	2.1%	10,222	29.8%	20,012	58.4%	3,286	9.6%	34,251	100.0%
Court 8	8	0.3%	325	10.4%	2,690	86.2%	99	3.2%	3,122	100.0%
Sussex County										
Court 1	498	11.2%	120	2.7%	3,594	80.5%	251	5.6%	4,463	100.0%
Court 2	434	2.5%	9,269	52.7%	6,901	39.2%	999	5.7%	17,603	100.0%
Court 3	393	1.4%	11,050	39.0%	14,001	49.4%	2,912	10.3%	28,356	100.0%
Court 4	99	0.8%	2,104	16.4%	10,173	79.5%	419	3.3%	12,795	100.0%
Court 5	28	0.7%	604	15.3%	3,164	80.0%	157	4.0%	3,953	100.0%
Court 14	5	0.1%	59	1.6%	3,608	95.7%	98	2.6%	3,770	100.0%
State without VAC	3,531	1.6%	66,537	29.8%	132,421	59.3%	20,803	9.3%	223,292	100.0%
VAC	208	0.2%	0	0.0%	108,972	99.8%	13	0.0%	109,193	100.0%
State with VAC	3,739	1.1%	66,537	20.0%	241,393	72.6%	20,816	6.3%	332,485	100.0%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT							
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (defendants)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
New Castle County							
Court 9	574		1,426		+ 852		+148.4%
Court 10	16,686		9,832		- 6,854		- 41.1%
Court 11	23,025		18,031		- 4,994		- 21.7%
Court 15	6,720		6,532		- 188		- 2.8%
Court 18	4,256		2,819		- 1,437		- 33.8%
Court 20	14,318		18,972		+ 4,654		+ 32.5%
Kent County							
Court 6	3,602		2,953		- 649		- 18.0%
Court 7	16,461		17,558		+ 1,097		+ 6.7%
Court 8	1,491		1,718		+ 227		+ 15.2%
Sussex County							
Court 1	2,707		2,526		- 181		- 6.7%
Court 2	4,922		6,250		+ 1,328		+ 27.0%
Court 3	10,568		10,092		- 476		- 4.5%
Court 4	6,806		6,903		+ 97		+ 1.4%
Court 5	2,249		2,141		- 108		- 4.8%
Court 14	941		1,633		+ 692		+ 73.5%
State without VAC	115,326		109,386		- 5,940		- 5.2%
VAC	132,042		120,431		-11,611		- 8.8%
State with VAC	247,368		229,817		-17,551		- 7.1%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Criminal and Traffic Dispositions (defendants)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
New Castle County							
Court 9	685		1,574		+ 889		+129.8%
Court 10	16,647		8,492		- 8,155		- 49.0%
Court 11	22,099		17,458		- 4,641		- 21.0%
Court 15	6,078		6,912		+ 834		+ 13.7%
Court 18	4,380		2,738		- 1,642		- 37.5%
Court 20	13,339		17,713		+ 4,374		+ 32.8%
Kent County							
Court 6	3,213		3,528		+ 315		+ 9.8%
Court 7	15,501		16,961		+ 1,460		+ 9.4%
Court 8	1,584		1,573		- 11		- 0.7%
Sussex County							
Court 1	2,769		2,330		- 439		- 15.9%
Court 2	4,989		5,686		+ 697		+ 14.0%
Court 3	10,934		8,955		- 1,979		- 18.1%
Court 4	7,119		6,195		- 924		- 13.0%
Court 5	2,349		2,022		- 327		- 13.9%
Court 14	794		1,456		+ 662		+ 83.4%
State without VAC	112,480		103,593		- 8,887		- 7.9%
VAC	126,272		110,161		-16,111		- 12.8%
State with VAC	238,752		213,754		-24,998		- 10.5%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

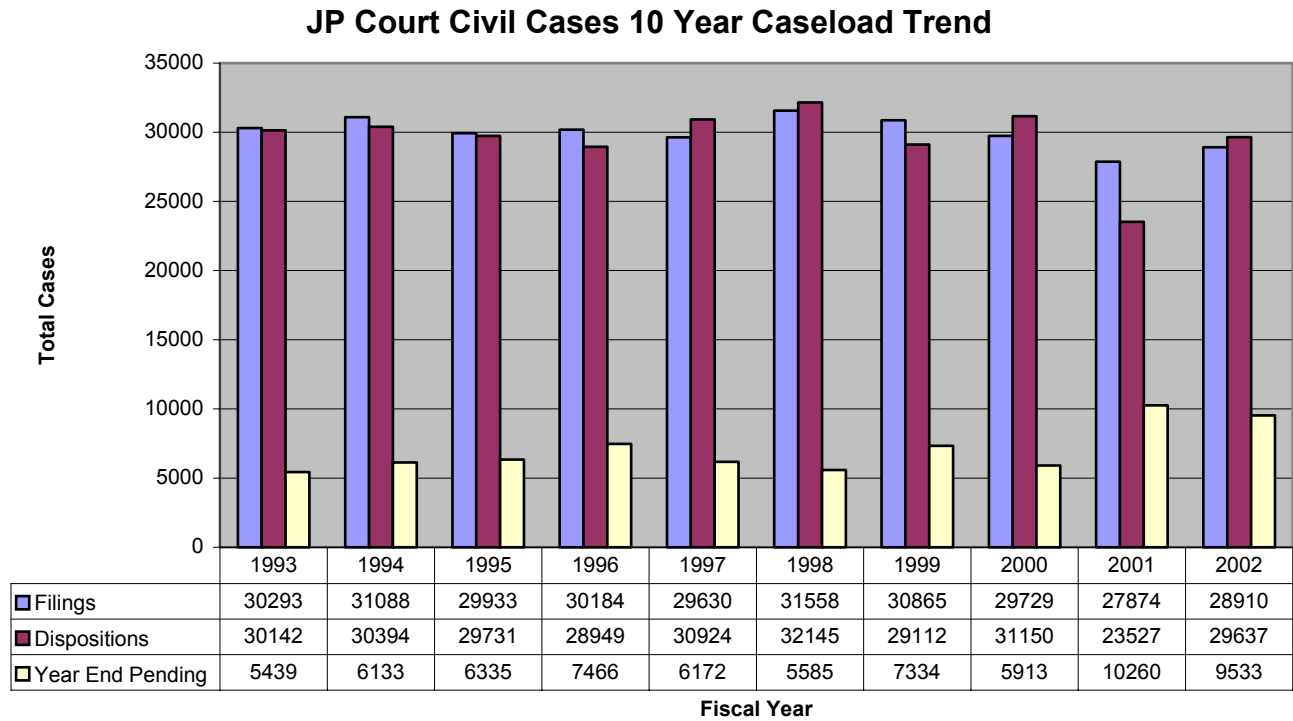
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT							
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Criminal and Traffic Filings (charges)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
New Castle County							
Court 9	946		3,132		+ 2,186		+231.1%
Court 10	23,367		17,926		- 5,441		- 23.3%
Court 11	50,309		37,767		-12,542		- 24.9%
Court 15	13,946		13,573		- 373		- 2.7%
Court 18	13,649		4,534		- 9,115		- 66.8%
Court 20	29,032		41,227		+12,195		+ 42.0%
Kent County							
Court 6	6,656		4,995		- 1,661		- 25.0%
Court 7	35,906		36,644		+ 738		+ 2.1%
Court 8	2,433		3,293		+ 860		+ 35.3%
Sussex County							
Court 1	4,559		4,811		+ 252		+ 5.5%
Court 2	9,734		18,943		+ 9,209		+ 94.6%
Court 3	28,080		29,790		+ 1,710		+ 6.1%
Court 4	14,272		13,893		- 379		- 2.7%
Court 5	4,346		4,270		- 76		- 1.7%
Court 14	1,825		4,297		+ 2,472		+135.5%
State without VAC	239,060		239,095		+ 35		+ 0.0%
VAC	141,613		124,582		-17,031		- 12.0%
State with VAC	380,673		363,677		-16,996		- 4.5%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Criminal and Traffic Dispositions (charges)							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
New Castle County							
Court 9	1,088		3,771		+ 2,683		+246.6%
Court 10	23,223		15,853		- 7,370		- 31.7%
Court 11	48,701		33,671		-15,030		- 30.9%
Court 15	13,213		12,485		- 728		- 5.5%
Court 18	13,859		4,510		- 9,349		- 67.5%
Court 20	26,655		39,686		+13,031		+ 48.9%
Kent County							
Court 6	6,049		5,003		- 1,046		- 17.3%
Court 7	35,044		34,251		- 793		- 2.3%
Court 8	2,655		3,122		+ 467		+ 17.6%
Sussex County							
Court 1	4,584		4,463		- 121		- 2.6%
Court 2	9,915		17,603		+ 7,688		+ 77.5%
Court 3	28,246		28,356		+ 110		+ 0.4%
Court 4	14,639		12,795		- 1,844		- 12.6%
Court 5	4,479		3,953		- 526		- 11.7%
Court 14	1,561		3,770		+ 2,209		+141.5%
State without VAC	233,911		223,292		-10,619		- 4.5%
VAC	134,030		109,193		-24,837		- 18.5%
State with VAC	367,941		332,485		-35,456		- 9.6%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

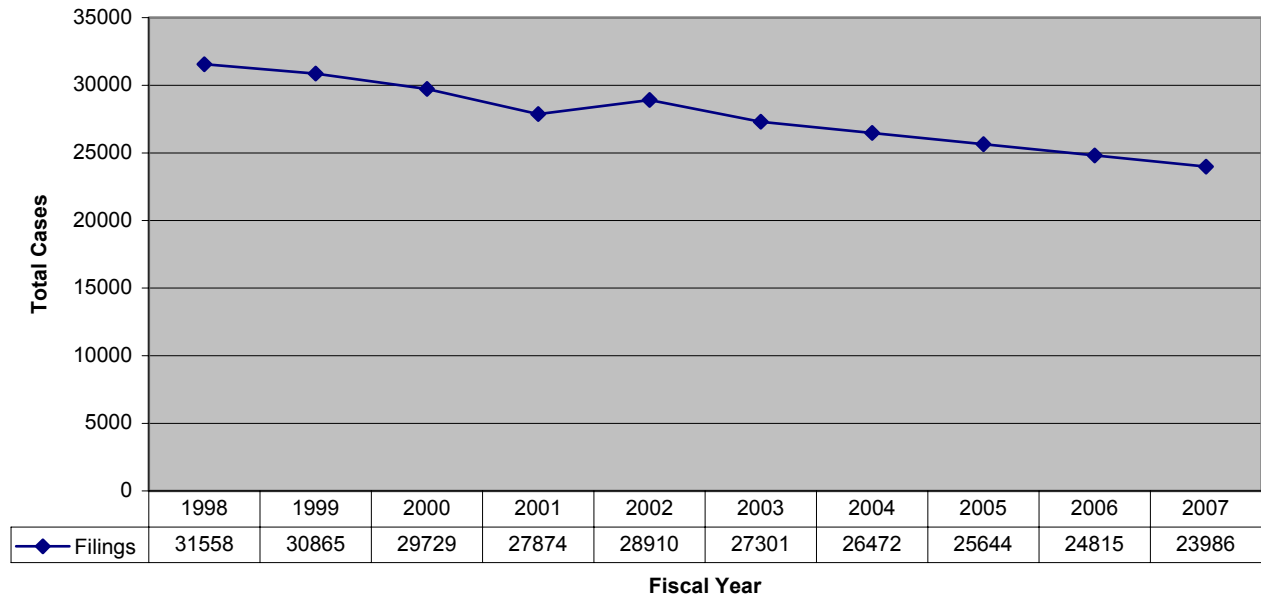
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT							
Caseload Summary Fiscal Year 2002 - Civil Cases							
	Pending 6/30/2001	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/2002	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending	Executions Filed
New Castle County							
Court 9	218	750	682	286	+ 68	+31.2%	0
Court 12	2,879	8,812	9,091	2,600	-279	- 9.7%	0
Court 13	3,462	8,492	8,838	3,116	-346	-10.0%	0
Kent County							
Court 8	6	8	10	4	- 2	-33.3%	0
Court 16	2,036	5,615	5,910	1,741	-295	-14.5%	0
Sussex County							
Court 17	1,043	2,782	2,901	924	-119	-11.4%	0
Court 19	616	2,451	2,205	862	+246	+39.9%	0
State	10,260	28,910	29,637	9,533	-727	- 7.1%	0
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Civil Cases Filings							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
New Castle County							
Court 9	188		750		+ 562		+298.9%
Court 12	9,144		8,812		- 332		- 3.6%
Court 13	8,253		8,492		+ 239		+ 2.9%
Kent County							
Court 8	4		8		+ 4		+100.0%
Court 16	5,531		5,615		+ 84		+ 1.5%
Sussex County							
Court 17	2,762		2,782		+ 20		+ 0.7%
Court 19	1,992		2,451		+ 459		+ 23.0%
State	27,874		28,910		+1,036		+ 3.7%
Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2001-2002 - Civil Cases Dispositions							
	2001		2002		Change		% Change
New Castle County							
Court 9	235		682		+ 447		+190.2%
Court 12	6,962		9,091		+2,129		+ 30.6%
Court 13	5,660		8,838		+3,178		+ 56.1%
Kent County							
Court 8	7		10		+ 3		+ 42.9%
Court 16	5,734		5,910		+ 176		+ 3.1%
Sussex County							
Court 17	2,770		2,901		+ 131		+ 4.7%
Court 19	2,159		2,205		+ 46		+ 2.1%
State	23,527		29,637		+6,110		+ 26.0%

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

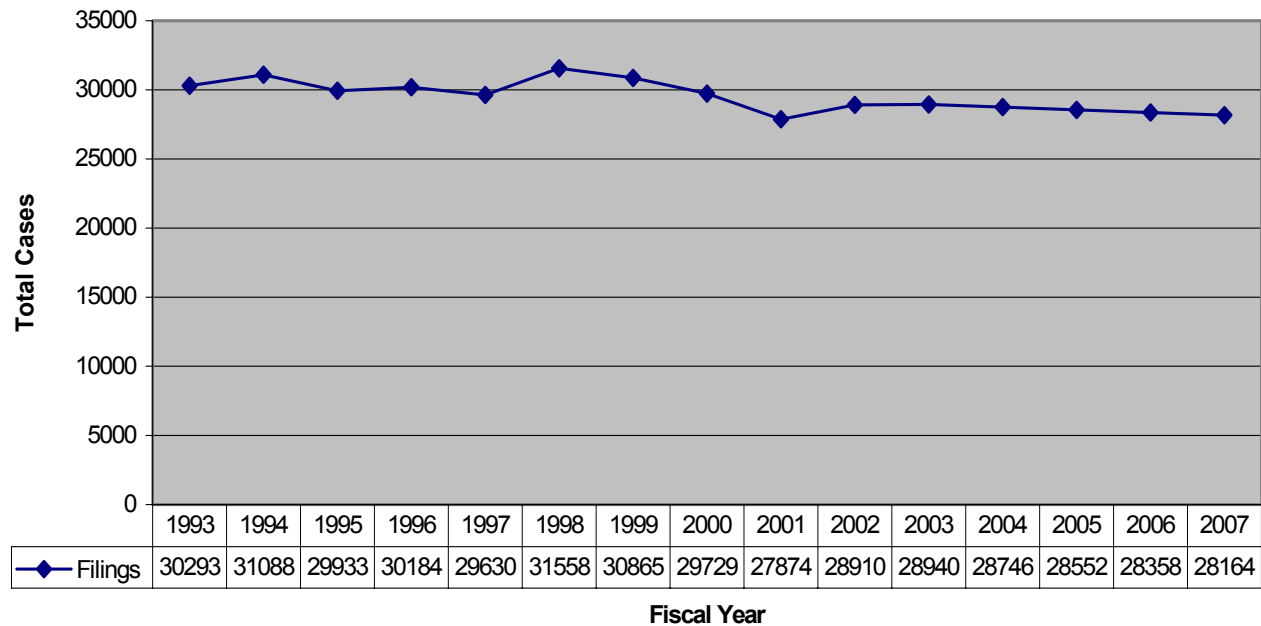


Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

JP Court Civil Cases 5 Year Projections Using 5 Year Base



JP Court Civil Cases 5 Year Projections Using 10 Year Base



Trend lines computed by regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT				
Court Rankings Fiscal Year 2001-2002 - Total Cases Filed (defendants)				
2002 Rank w/o VAC	Court	Total Filings	% of Total w/o VAC	2001 Rank w/o VAC
1	Court 20	18,972	13.7%	4
2	Court 11	18,031	13.0%	1
3	Court 7	17,558	12.7%	3
4	Court 3	10,092	7.3%	5
5	Court 10	9,832	7.1%	2
6	Court 12	8,812	6.4%	6
7	Court 13	8,492	6.1%	7
8	Court 4	6,903	5.0%	8
9	Court 15	6,532	4.7%	9
10	Court 2	6,250	4.5%	11
11	Court 16	5,615	4.1%	10
12	Court 6	2,953	2.1%	13
13	Court 18	2,819	2.0%	12
14	Court 17	2,782	2.0%	14
15	Court 1	2,526	1.8%	15
16	Court 19	2,451	1.8%	17
17	Court 9	2,176	1.6%	20
18	Court 5	2,141	1.5%	16
19	Court 8	1,726	1.2%	18
20	Court 14	1,633	1.2%	15
	State w/o VAC	138,296		
	VAC	120,431		
	State w/ VAC	258,727		

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT				
Court Rankings - Fiscal Year 2001-2002 - Total Filings (charges)				
2002 Rank w/o VAC	Court	Total Filings	% of Total w/o VAC	2001 Rank w/o VAC
1	Court 20	41,227	15.4%	3
2	Court 11	37,767	14.1%	1
3	Court 7	36,644	13.7%	2
4	Court 3	29,790	11.1%	4
5	Court 2	18,943	7.1%	9
6	Court 10	17,926	6.7%	5
7	Court 4	13,893	5.2%	6
8	Court 15	13,573	5.1%	7
9	Court 12	8,812	3.3%	10
10	Court 13	8,492	3.2%	11
11	Court 16	5,615	2.1%	13
12	Court 6	4,995	1.9%	12
13	Court 1	4,811	1.8%	14
14	Court 18	4,534	1.7%	8
15	Court 14	4,297	1.6%	19
16	Court 5	4,270	1.6%	15
17	Court 9	3,882	1.4%	20
18	Court 8	3,301	1.2%	17
19	Court 17	2,782	1.0%	16
20	Court 19	2,451	0.9%	18
	State w/o VAC	268,005		
	VAC	124,582		
	State w/ VAC	392,587		

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.